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Remarks

It is observed that the Examiner indicated that claims 4 and 7 are directed to allowable subject matter. Accordingly, applicant herewith submits new independent claims 38 and 53, reciting all the features respectively included in original claims 4 and 7 together with the features of original claim 1.

Dependent claims 21-36, 39-51 and 54-65 derive from originally filed dependent claims. Applicant also submits new independent claims 37, 52 and 66, which derive from original claim 19.

The Examiner objected to expressions in the specification because they were considered indefinite. The Examiner also rejected some of originally filed claims under 35 USC §112 as being indefinite or unclear.

Accordingly, applicant has amended both the specification and the claims in order to overcome the Examiner's objections; the specification and the new set of claims are now believed to be clear, but applicant will be open to any further suggestion the Examiner may make.

The Examiner rejected some claims under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated by Sartorio (US 4,261,150); particularly, claims 1 and 2 were rejected since Sartorio teaches a reinforcement having metal profiles forming a frame, the reinforcement having a substantially C-shape, undulations and perforations.

Applicant respectfully points out that Sartorio does not teach a reinforcement comprising longitudinal profiles reciprocally connected by transverse profiles so as to form a frame, wherein at least some of said longitudinal profiles or said transverse profiles have perforations and undulations. Claim 20 comprises the features recited in originally filed claims 1 and 2; applicant strongly believes that the invention as recited in claim 20 is not anticipated by Sartorio.

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In fact, with reference to figure 3 and to line 64 of column 3 of '150, it is seen that Sartorio discloses a metal latticework having undulations. The lattice work is a cage of iron rods (col. 4, lines 2-3) and accordingly apertures are provided between adjacent rods. The Examiner cited figure 7 in order to show that metal profiles as that shown in figure 3 form a frame.

The profiles and the frame comprising the profiles disclosed in '150 are deeply different from Applicants' invention as now claimed, since Sartorio does not teach a reinforcement having longitudinal profiles reciprocally connected by means of transverse profiles. In figure 7 of '150, it is shown that two profiles facing each other, which might be considered as longitudinal profiles (i.e. profiles extending in a longitudinal direction), are not connected to each other by transverse profiles, which should be of the same nature of the longitudinal profiles according to figure 1 of the patent application under examination; Sartorio only teaches a transverse connection between the walls of a caisson (see nuts 21).

Alternatively, a structure of the kind shown in figure 3 of '150, if taken alone, may be considered as a frame comprising rods connected to each other; even though the rods were considered to be equivalent to the profiles forming the frame, the invention as now claimed by the applicants would be however novel with respect to '150, since Sartorio does not teach that such rods comprise perforations.

It will be noted that a sincere effort has been made to positively respond to all of the points raised by the Examiner.

While it is believed that the amended claims properly define the present invention and distinguish the same over the art of record, applicant would be open to any suggestion the Examiner may have concerning different claim phraseology which, in the Examiner's opinion, more accurately defines the present invention.

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Respectfully submitted,

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